

For Immediate Release

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**REID, ENSIGN ANNOUNCE
\$200 MILLION FOR NV VA HOSPITAL**
\$100 Million for NV military bases

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Nevada's Senators Harry Reid and John Ensign announced today that major funding for the southern Nevada veterans' medical center passed a Senate committee today. The Senators included \$199 million for the hospital in a Veterans Affairs spending bill working its way through Congress.

"When our veterans signed up for military service, the government made them certain promises in return," Senator Reid said. "One of those guarantees is supposed to be first class health care. While I have grave concerns about the overall financial state of the current Veterans Administration, we have good news today that the money for our hospital is moving through the process."

"It's fitting, on today's 75th Anniversary of the Veterans Administration, that we renew our commitment to providing quality health care for our veterans right here in Nevada," Ensign said. "For too long our country did not live up to the promises we made to veterans. This funding is an important step in reversing that trend and giving vets the quality care they've earned."

The bill is expected to pass the full Senate sometime this fall. Nevada's U.S. Representatives Jim Gibbons, Shelley Berkley and Jon Porter included the funding in the House version of the bill.

In a separate spending bill that also passed the Senate committee today, Reid and Ensign included more than \$100 million for Nevada's military installations. Projects funded in the Military Construction bill include:

Air National Guard Intelligence Facility (Reno)	\$16 million
Nellis AFB Airfield Fire Rescue Station	\$ 3.5 million
F-22 "Raptor" facilities at Nellis Air Force Base	\$20 million
Bio Environmental Engineering Facility at Nellis Air Force base	\$1.7 million
Unmanned Arial Vehicle (UAV) faculties at Creech AFB (Indian Springs)	\$60 million